

# Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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# STORE MANAGER BOUND, ROBBED

## A Penny for your Thoughts

With the City Council protesting the county's plans to put a juvenile hall here, THE HERALD'S inquiring photographer asked:

"County officials have proposed putting a branch of the Juvenile Hall here. What do you think of this plan? Why?"

Ernest Treloar, 1908 Andreo Ave., National Supply supervisor:

"Torrance isn't a small town any more. It's got to accept the responsibilities of a big town and live up to them. A juvenile hall properly run is an asset to the community."

Mrs. Irene Hill, 24518 President Ave., housewife:

"If it's needed, it might just as well be located here. We shouldn't overlook the point that these things should be taken care of as they arise. It's a problem we should face up to — not leave for somebody else to take care of."

James Davidson, 4306 Carmen St., music teacher:

"I would much rather see Torrance, through its schools, recreation dept. and other youth organizations provide so many positive and constructive activities for youth that a juvenile hall would seem out of place here. This is true now, as I see it."

Sue Ireland, 1303 1/2 Portola, clerk-typist:

"I have no objection to it. It's an institution that has to be located somewhere. Everybody seems to feel that it's something that some other town should have. If the county wants to put it here, that's all right with me."

L. Meskimen, 744 Catalina, Los Angeles, retired:

"I think it's a good idea. Parents might be reminded to find out the whereabouts of their children more. If children knew it was here, they might be more cautious about what they do."

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## Shopping Center On Airport Triangle

A shopping center will be constructed on city-owned land at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. Agreement on terms of a lease for development of the center was reached by city councilmen and Jefferson, Inc.

The firm agreed to build \$4,000,000 worth of improvements on the 36-acre triangle within four years and to restrict the number of non-sales tax producing subleases.

City officials have estimated the center will bring \$250,000 annually in the municipal coffers from lease, sales tax and in-lieu rental fees.

## 4 Hurt as Two Cars, Bus Collide in Fog

Four persons were injured when two cars and a bus collided in heavy fog Thursday morning at Sepulveda Blvd. and Madrona Ave.

Local police are expected to seek a complaint against Norma Maxine Edwards, 33, of 4535 Hallison Ave., who reportedly ran a stop signal at the intersection.

The Edwards car crashed into the city bus, forcing it into a car driven by Mary Lee Busch, 32, of 22933 Kent Ave. Driver of the bus, which was not carrying passengers at the

## County Finances For New Sports Arena in Doubt

Officials from three cities heard the chairman of Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Dept. dampen local hopes for a \$5,000,000 sports center in the Torrance-Redondo Beach area last week.

Milt Arthur told the mayors of the three cities and other officials that it was becoming increasingly hard to obtain county finances for anything. He referred to the storm of protest which greeted the latest county tax bills.

**132-Acre Site**  
The proposed sports center would be located on a 132-acre tract bounded by Torrance Blvd. on the south, Henrietta St. on the east, Del Amo Blvd. on the north and the Torrance-Redondo boundary on the west. The property is owned by Dominguez Estates.

Present at Wednesday's meeting were Torrance Mayor Al Isen, Mayor Bob Warner of Manhattan Beach and Mayor LeRoy Center of Redondo Beach, together with recreation officials of the three cities.

Isen told the group that the sport center committee's first job was to obtain the support of other South Bay cities, and to present the proposal to Supervisor Burton C. Chace.

**Committee Warned**  
Arthur warned the committee that they should make a complete survey of all problems involved before going to the supervisors. Pointing out that the county already is having trouble obtaining funds for a 204-acre sports center at 190th St. and Avalon Blvd., and is acquiring land for a 200-acre center in Palos Verdes, he said the supervisors would require ample evidence that the proposed center was needed.

Isen replied that he thought the South Bay communities had been neglected by the county, and that the center would serve more than 500,000 people in the area.

The committee decided to meet again in January after sounding out city officials in seven other communities.

Endorsement of the proposed center has been voted by the Redondo Beach city council.



**CITY'S TAXES . . .** City Manager Stevens points out the city's share of the current tax dollar—16.8 per cent. A larger share goes to the schools and the county. Although many taxpayers are unhappy about their taxes, there's nothing they can do now. The die was cast when budgets were approved. (Herald Photo)

## High Taxes Make Residents See Red

You may have done a double take when you opened your tax bill this time, but there's nothing you can do about it now.

Like "they" say, if it's inevitable, you might as well enjoy it. There was a time when the amount of taxes could have matedly the same, but it was lowered or kept approximately the same when budgets were made up earlier this year.

And don't blame the county assessor for your troubles. His

## Wind Causes Trees to Fall

Minor damage in the Torrance area was reported following heavy winds which pounded the Southland area Thursday and Friday.

Storm winds felled three trees here—one falling on a car belonging to Phillip Key, 3618 W. 226th St. The tree put a deep scratch in the paint and bent the radio antenna of the car which was parked at El Prado and Manuel Ave.

A palm tree in Torrance Park was uprooted and a tree at 3337 Danaha St. toppled over.

Particles of ashes from the fire in the San Gabriel canyon sprinkled down over the area, causing porches, sidewalks, and cars to be covered with the downy fluff.

Housewives started spring housecleaning in November to get rid of the heavy coating of dust which filtered into houses to cover furniture.



**WIND DAMAGE . . .** High winds which blew through the Torrance and Los Angeles areas Thursday sent this tree smashing down on a car belonging to Phillip Key, 3618 W. 226th, as it was parked at El Prado and Manuel. Ashes from a forest fire in the foothills above Pasadena also came sifting down on local homes, blown by the high gales.

## Victim Warned To Keep Quiet

Wearing an ivy league cap, a grey-haired gunman held up the B. F. Goodrich store, 1323 Cravens Ave., Friday evening and escaped with more than \$500. The store manager was left on the floor with his hands and ankles tied.

Entering the store, the man walked to the rear counter where he pointed a heavy service revolver at Ronald O'Brien, store manager, and declared:

"This is a stickup . . . open the safe."

**Takes Money in Safe**  
O'Brien told police the gunman took \$200 in cash from a money box in the safe and an unknown amount of checks. He also took \$300 in cash from the register. Taking quarters and half dollars, he left all the smaller coins.

After collecting the money, he tied O'Brien's hands and ankles with white cord which he had brought with him.

**Issues Warning**  
Forcing the store employe to lie down on the floor, he issued this warning before fleeing the scene:

"Don't get up or call the police or I'll come back and get you. I'll be watching you from outside."

O'Brien described the bandit as 6 feet in height, 180-190 lbs., 50 years of age. Grey at the temples, he wore dark glasses and had a ruddy complexion, and a round face.

He wore a grey ivy league type cap with a visor and a tan overcoat buttoned to the neck.

## PLANNERS APPROVE VARIANCE

After some discussion, the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night recommended for approval a variance request for erection of a Hancock Service Station at the northwest corner of Sepulveda and Arlington.

Protests were received from the Foursquare Gospel Church and Fred Holter, but Chris Sorenson, owner of the property pointed out that the variance was needed only on a small parcel of land as the rest already was correctly zoned.

**Action Asked**  
In the first formal hearing on a zone change from R-1 to R-2 on property on the east side of Date Ave., south of Sonoma, several residents of the area indicated that they preferred commercial zoning for their property. A second

**Valuations Jump**  
Throughout the county, the valuation increased from \$7,000,000,000 to \$9,000,000,000, while in Torrance is jumped from about \$120,000,000 to \$150,000,000. Much of the increase was due to growth, but it was due also to the fact that the assessed valuation per home or business also was hiked.

There are various explanations for hiking the valuation instead of the tax rate, but the most commonly accepted one is that people don't scream as much about the assessed valuation as they do about their tax rate. From a politician's viewpoint, this is important.

## Rivets Reports

Prospects are for a sunny, warm day today, reported Rivets, HERALD weather-dog, as he busily swept out the dust which blew into his dog house last week. High should be in the mid-70's.

High and low temperatures this week included Thursday (79-47); Friday (71-45); and Saturday (74-40).

## Community Near Completion of '57 Chest Drive

Torrance needs only \$1082 to reach 100 per cent of its \$19,887 Community Chest quota.

Glen Koger, city chairman, urged his workers to get out and complete their jobs so that Torrance will hit the 100 per cent mark by the next report meeting Dec. 3.

The chairman requested volunteers to make one final effort in the drive which serves many community agencies.

## Residents in Hard-to-Find Homes Sought

"Come out, come out, wherever you are!"

That was the city's appeal to residents of hard-to-find homes and apartments this week, as the special Torrance census entered its final week. The census is being conducted to enable the city to receive additional gas tax funds from the

If you haven't been counted, check the "Missing Person" box on Page 13 today.

state, amounting to about \$8 for every man, woman, and child in the city.

Any person who has not been contacted by a census taker by mid-week was requested to get in touch with the City Hall, or fill out a missed persons form, on page 13 of today's HERALD. These include people who are rarely home or those who live in out-of-the-way apartments or homes.

Benjamin Kundin, who is heading the special census operation here, said work should be completed by Saturday, with a preliminary report expected at that time. Of 100 enumerators who began taking the special census, only 20 are still at work. Most of these are completing a second assignment, he said.

## Miss Walton Gets Office

Connie Walton, a 1955 graduate of Torrance High School, has been elected president of the Associated Women Students at the University of California, Riverside. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Walton, of 1415 Acacia, Torrance.

A junior majoring in social science at UCR, Connie is active in the Glenarries, Women's social organization on campus.



A CHARTER MEMBER . . . Among the first to subscribe to membership in the new Tournament of Roses Float Assn. here was Coleman Engineers; a new Torrance industrial firm. Here Ted Carroll, manager of company services for Coleman, receives his membership cards from three Chamber of Commerce secretaries, (from the left) Lynne Edgar, Shirley Robinson, and Phyllis Graham.